

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. These amendments are made in view of the Advisory Action of March 6, 1998. The above amendments are believed to place all of the claims in condition for allowance and entry of these amendments is therefore requested under Rule 116. All rejected claims (numbers 8, 9, 13-15, 17, 19, 21 and 23) have been canceled, thereby leaving only allowed or objected to claims, which are claims 6, 10-12, 18 and 22.

It has been assumed that the amendment mailed February 17, 1998 has not been entered (as indicated on the Advisory Action). Thus, amended claim 6 is presented again. The Examiner indicated that this claim would be allowed if the non-allowable claims were canceled, which has happened by this amendment. Hence claim 6 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 10-12 have been amended to depend on claim 6 directly or indirectly. Therefore, claims 10-12 should be allowable.

Claims 18 and 22 have been amended to be independent claims which incorporate all of the limitations of claims 17 and 21 respectively.

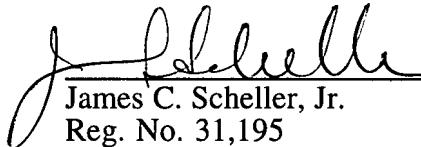
Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time to respond to the pending Office Action, and a check for the necessary extension fee is enclosed.

If there are any additional fees, please charge our deposit account no. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date 3/16, 1998


James C. Scheller, Jr.
Reg. No. 31,195

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8598

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

On MARCH 16, 1998
Date of Deposit
CONNIE WEST
Name of Person Mailing Correspondence
Connie West 3-16-98
Signature Date